

Does having a Kindergarten program best meet the needs of the SFEI membership?

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Policies and Procedures

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Background

- Kindergarten Program has been in place since 1998 and has been a valuable asset to the parents of SFEI
 - High quality education including enrichment activities
 - Convenience (co-located siblings, location, hours)
 - Acceleration options for kids who miss the age deadline for public school
- The rumor that Mrs. Ramsey is retiring is not true and did not prompt this discussion
- We are not deciding anything today—
 - Just explaining a possible implementation of not having Kindergarten and looking for pros and cons



Current Situation

- Enrollment for Kindergarten for 2006-2007 is low
 - Goal is 17 children
 - 15 children currently registered (2 may not end up staying)
- The in-house pool for K is 34 children from Pre-K
 - Only 9 Pre-K children will stay for K next year
- The Kinder waiting list has 0 children
 - 4 children have signed up from outside the center/waiting list (2 are accelerations)
 - 1 child from last year will repeat due to age
 - 1 child from Early Pre-K will skip Pre-K to attend K next year



Kindergarten Statistics

Year	Class Total	# Repeats	# From Center	# New	# Accelerations and Source	
2001	16	0	11	5	3	1 from center (previously accel), 2 new
2002	16	1	8	7	3	3 new
2003	19	0	17	1	3	2 from center (previously accel), 1 new
2004	16	1	14	1	2	2 from center (previously accel)
2005	18	0	17	1	4	3 from center (1 previously accel, 2 skipped pre-K), 1 new
2006	15 so far	1	11	4	4	2 from center (1 previously accel, 1 skipping pre-K), 2 new

- Prior to 2003, the maximum number of children allowed in K was 16
- In 2002, the pre-K pool consisted of one class with 16 children
- All accelerations from 2001-2005 were requested by the parents and approved by Kristy & Mrs. Ramsey. None of the children were accelerated in order to fill the room.
- For 2006, parents from outside requesting acceleration were accepted to help fill room. (Children attended Pre-K elsewhere)



Kindergarten Statistics Cont.

- Trends? Difficult to see but:
 - The last 3 years 17, 14, and 17 kids from within the school have stayed for K
 - Removing those that were not K age and those that were repeating K left 15, 11, and 14 kids (vs. 9 for next year)
 - In those years, 1 child per year was enrolled from outside and two of those were not K age
- Why is enrollment so low this year?
 - Fallout from the turmoil of the last few years?
 - More options for Kindergarten than in the past?
 - More kids in Pre-K with older siblings outside the center?
- What will it be next year? Will do an informal poll of the incoming Pre-K families to gauge demand for 2007-2008



Waiting List

- The waiting list has approximately 175 children (fall enrollments have been removed to obtain this number)
 - 32 Early Pre-K and older
 - 143 Twos and younger
- Number of kids fluctuates but has been steadily rising since 2002 when it was in the low 100's
- Many people give up after a couple of years on the waiting list



Current Target Enrollment

Room #	Age Group	Approximate Age Range	# Children	# teachers
1	Infants	0-11 mo	10	3
2	Toddlers	12-21 mo	12	3
3	Toddlers/Twos	22-29 mo	12	3
4	Twos	30-35 mo	14	2
5	Early Pre-K	36-47 mo	14	2
6	Early Pre-K	36-47 mo	16	2
7	Pre-K	48-59 mo	17	2
8	Pre-K	48-59 mo	17	2
9	K	60-72 mo	17	2

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- 48 age 2 and younger
- 81 age 3 and older



Actual Enrollment as of May 2006 (pre-migration)

Room #	Age Group	Sept '05 Age Range	Current Age Range	# Children	# Teachers	# CS	# Contr
1	Infants	0-11 mo	6-20 mo	10	3	9	1
2	Toddlers	11-18 mo	19-26 mo	12	3	11	1
3	Toddlers/Twos	19-27 mo	27-36 mo	12	3	9	3
4	Twos	26-35 mo	32-43 mo	14	2	13	1
5	Early Pre-K	34-41 mo	43-50 mo	14	2	12	2
6	Early Pre-K	37-47 mo	43-56 mo	17	2	15	2
7	Pre-K	50-59 mo	60-69 mo	17	2	14	3
8	Pre-K	47-56 mo	48-66 mo	17	2	9	8
9	K	55-71 mo	65-81 mo	17	2	13	4

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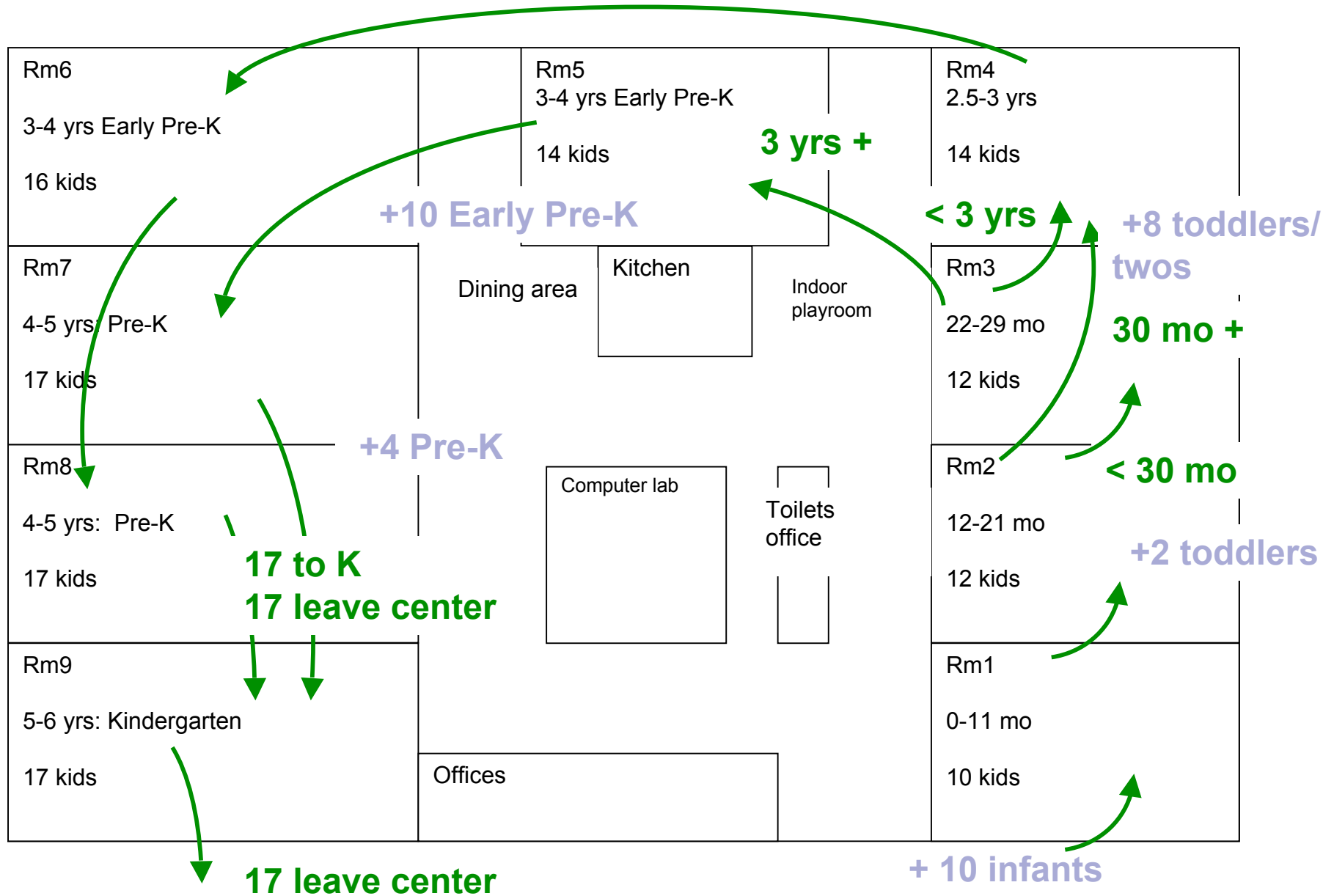
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Current General Migration Plan

- Room 1 to Room 2
- Room 2
 - Under 30 months to Room 3
 - 30 months and up to Room 4
- Room 3
 - Under 36 months to Room 4
 - 36 months and up to Room 5
- Room 4 split between Rooms 5 and 6
- Room 5 to Room 7
- Room 6 to Room 8
- Rooms 7 and 8 split between Room 9 and leave center
- Plan results in standard openings for 10 infants, 10 Toddlers/Twos, 10 Early Pre-K, and 4 Pre-K each year, plus whatever is available for K

Current General Migration Plan - Graphical





Summer 2006 Migration Status

- 42 Withdrawals over the summer
 - 27 Filled
 - 8 Infant, 2 Toddler, 2 Twos, 9 Early Pre-K, 2 Pre-K, 4 K
 - 17 Civil Servant, 10 Contractor
 - 6 had siblings already attending the center
 - 3 have siblings on the waiting list
 - 15 Remaining
 - 1 Infant, 4 toddlers, 2 Twos, 3 Early Pre-K, 3 Pre-K, 2 K
 - At least 4 likely to be Contractors



Target Enrollment without Kindergarten

Room #	Age Group	Approximate Age Range	# Children	# teachers
1	Infants	0-11 mo	10	3
2	Toddlers	12-17 mo	12	3
3	Toddlers	18-23 mo	12	3
4	Twos	24-29 mo	12	2
5	Twos	30-35 mo	14	2
6	Early Pre-K	36-47 mo	16	2
7	Early Pre-K	36-47 mo	16	2
8	Pre-K	48-59 mo	17	2
9	Pre-K	48-59 mo	17	2

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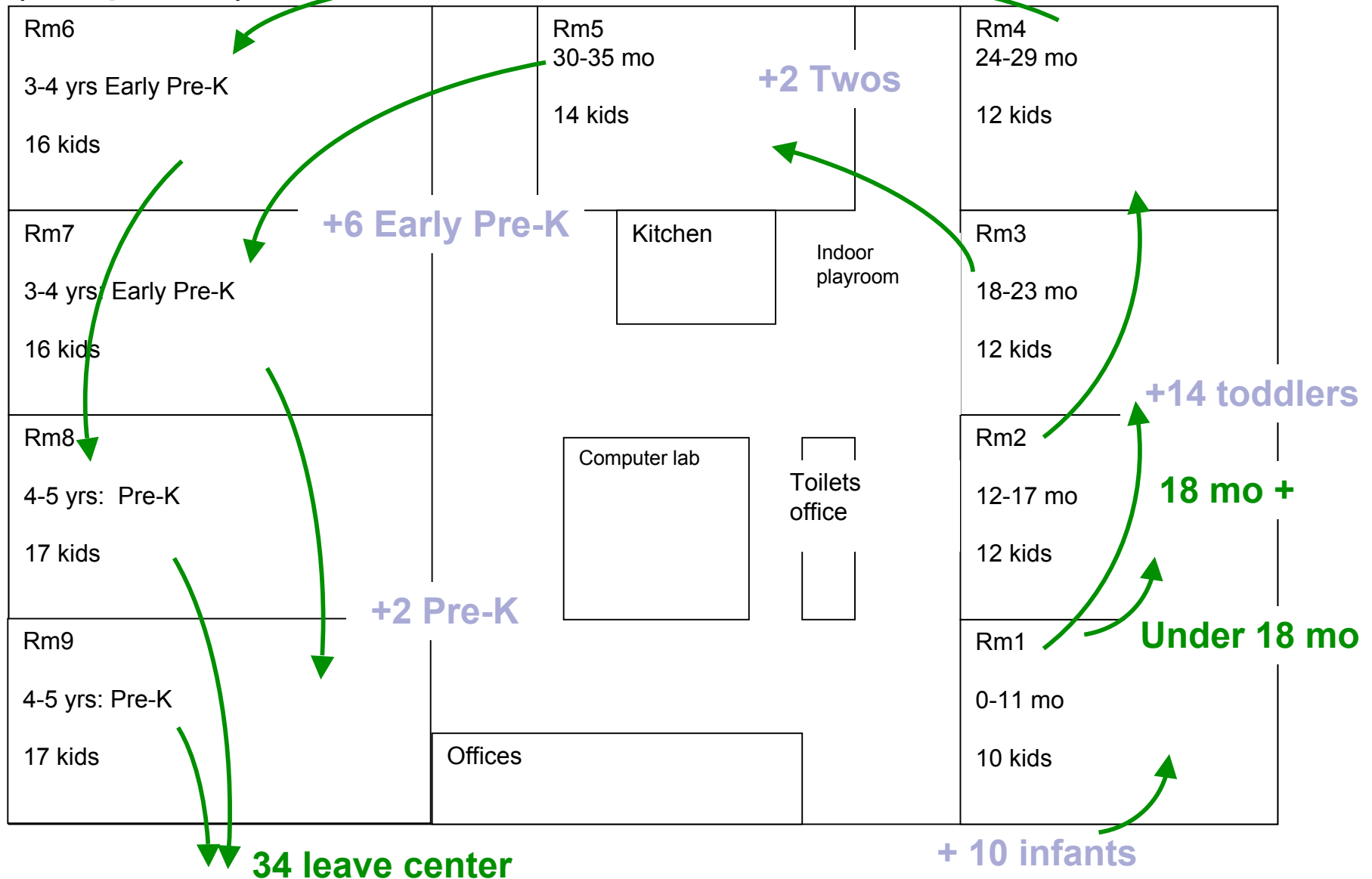
- 60 age 2 and younger
- 66 age 3 and older
- Could consider adding 2 children to room 4 mid-year (in-school migration or wait list)
- Other variations possible including having split older infant/younger toddler room 2



General Migration Plan without Kindergarten

- Room 1
 - Under 18 months to Room 2
 - 18 months and up to Room 3
- Room 2 to Room 4
- Room 3 to Room 5
- Room 4 to Room 6
- Room 5 to Room 7
- Room 6 to Room 8
- Room 7 to Room 9
- Rooms 8 and 9 leave center
- Plan results in standard openings for 10 infants, 14 Toddlers, 2 Twos, 6 Early Pre-K, and 2 Pre-K each year

General Migration Plan without Kinder (Graphical)





Migration Changes

- Process will be simpler without Kinder because there would be two classes for each age group except Infants and no split age classrooms
- More openings will be available at a younger age (mostly toddlers) where the demand is highest on the waiting list
 - Openings shifted away from older rooms where they are harder to fill
 - Fewer Early Pre-K openings which can be difficult to fill because of the potty-training requirement at that age
- Easier to maintain smaller range of ages in rooms 2 and up
- Possible mid-year migration/enrollment of two additional kids <3 yrs
- Age distribution more even



Other Considerations

■ Financial Impact:

- ☐ First look appears to be about the same
- ☐ Tuition rates will continue to be set by room based on number of kids and teachers (dependant on kids' ages)
- ☐ 3 Fewer students overall with option to add back 2 mid-year in Two's room
- ☐ Possible reduction in food costs (probably minor)
- ☐ Any effect on class materials?

■ Staffing Impact:

- ☐ Number of staff required remains the same
- ☐ Current staff would require shuffling to accommodate age groups

■ Facility Impact:

- ☐ Some reconfiguration required esp. in room 5 to add back changing table which used to be there

■ Misc.

- ☐ Potty Training could begin in younger age group if children are ready because Room 3 would be older Toddlers and has a child potty
- ☐ Operational mods such as who eats in cafeteria, who can go on field trips, etc.



Drawbacks to No Kindergarten

- Parents who want private kindergarten will have to go elsewhere
 - Quality and diversity of education unknown
 - Could be less convenient (siblings in separate schools one year sooner, location not on-site, unknown hours)
- No acceleration options at SFEI for kids who miss the age deadline for public school Kinder